west bank. Wirephoto)

AT TEXAS CITY COUNCIL

Proposed Budget Aired

By LARRY POWELL
Staff Writer

The Texas City Council waded through another lengthy discussion of the city's proposed estimated 1970-71 budget of $2,646,093 Tuesday night, firing questions at department heads concerning budget request and cuts.

Mayor D. W. Wisdom, asked if the proposed estimated budget, if adopted by the city council, would result in increased taxation, replied, "That's what we're working against right now."

The proposed estimated budget shows only a slight increase over the 1969-70 budget of $2,532,517.

The final city council discussion of the budget is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday at city hall. The final public hearing on the budget is scheduled for Aug. 10.

Among departmental budgets discussed during Tuesday night's session was that of the fire department, which requested $564,534 to operate on during the next year. The proposed budget, however, cuts off $129,163 of that request, setting the proposed figure at $435,371. Items cut out of the budget request in arriving at the proposed figure include two pumper fire truck units and a rescue unit which Chief Billy Joe Fox estimated would cost $80,000. The city council, if the cut is approved, may decide to borrow money to purchase the trucks rather than place an $80,000 or more burden on tax money, city officials said.

The council also discussed proposed appropriations for the ambulance department, to $77,554, down from the $89,409 requested. The major portion of the proposed cut exists in salaries.

The proposed figure for the planning department includes $42,213 for the year; the inspection division of the planning department requested $38,470, but the proposed budget cuts the recommendation back to $27,298, with salaries and a pickup truck suggested as expendable items.

The Parks and Recreation Department requested $125,304, but the budget, after suggested cuts, proposed that the department receive only $117,449. The cuts came in the salary and furniture and fixture categories.

Petition

would be too much transportation involved."

Also speaking in favor of reopening the school was the Rev. C. K. Yarber. He said it is time "for the black people to get together and stay together. "If we work together, we can reopen Carver. Together we can re-open all our schools. We are taxpayers and we should know how our money is spent and that it is not all spent for the whites' convenience only."